

Forthcoming!

Reshaping Rural Extension

Learning for Sustainability (LforS)

An Integrative and Learning-Based Advisory Approach for Rural Extension

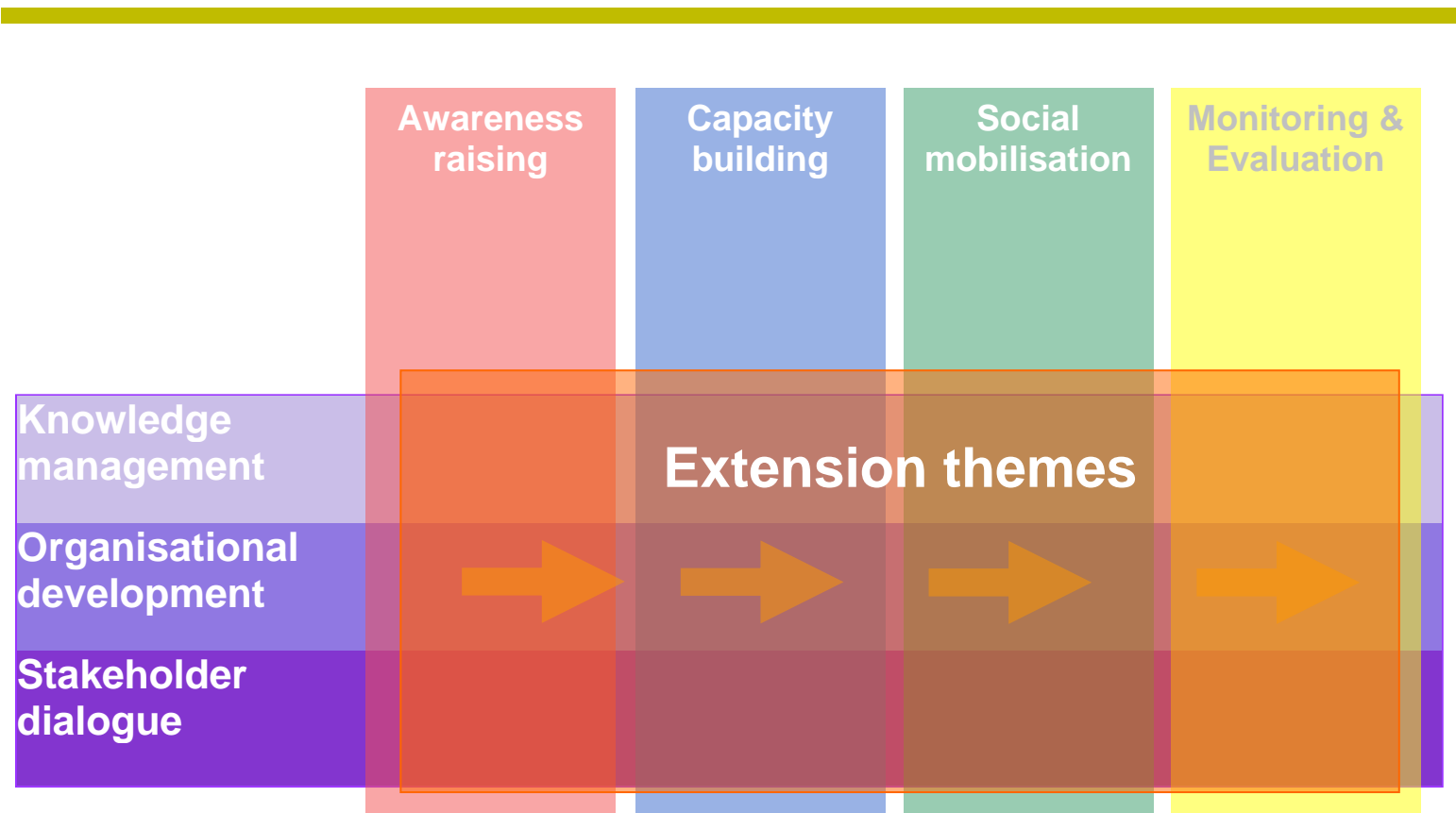
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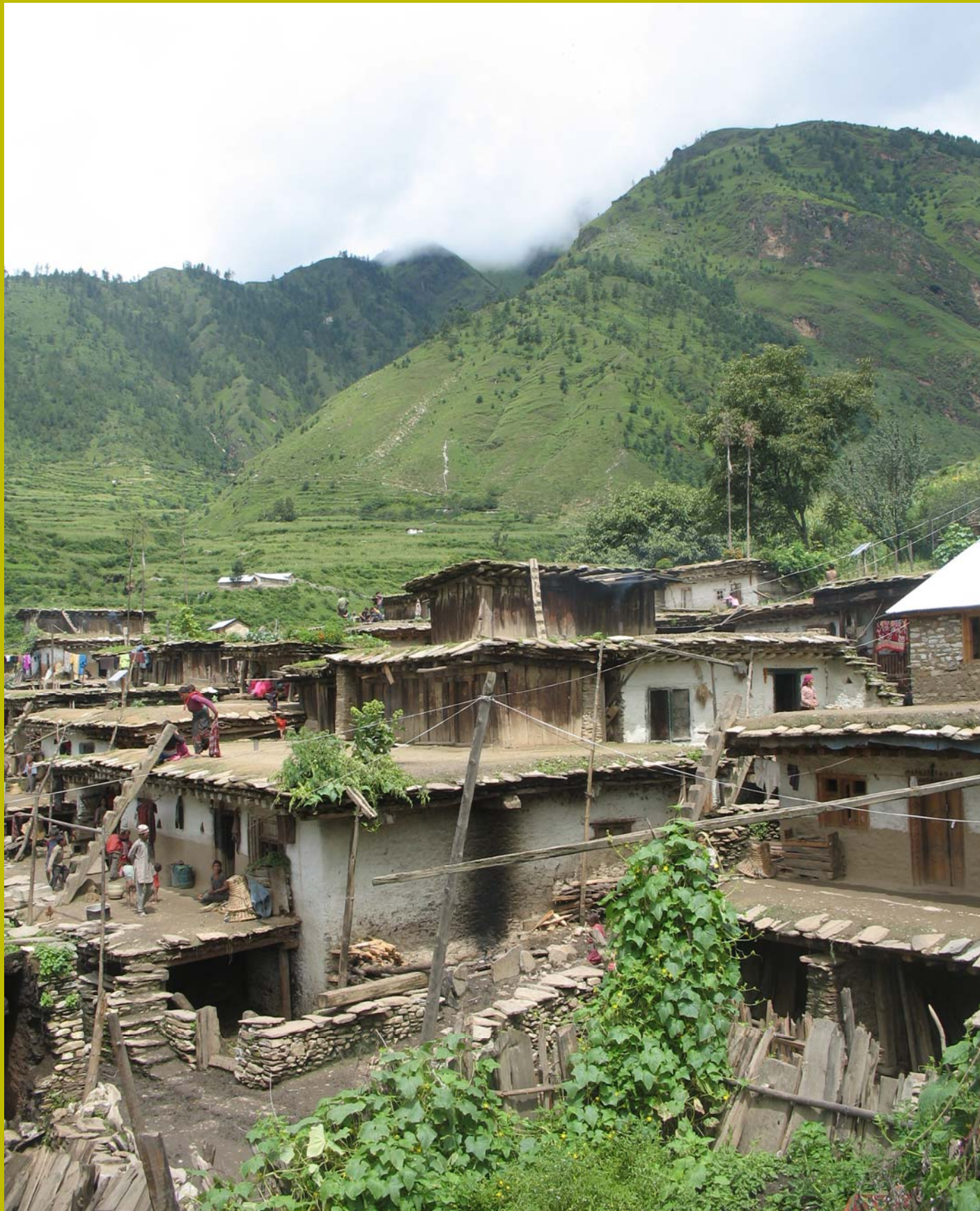
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Specific priorities of LforS

- Market orientation, yes - but more emphasis on subsistence-oriented production is needed.
- A livelihood approach is crucial, as farms and households closely interact and investments at either level will have effects on the other.
- Striking a balance between productive and reproductive extension themes.
- As decision-makers, small-scale farmers need to be oriented towards complex and changing framework conditions.

Structure of the LforS extension approach

Basic components

→ pursued throughout the extension cycle and independent of specific extension themes:

- Stakeholder dialogue
- Organisational development
- Knowledge management

Activity lines

→ time-sequenced extension activities

- Awareness raising
- Capacity building
- Social mobilisation
- Monitoring and evaluation



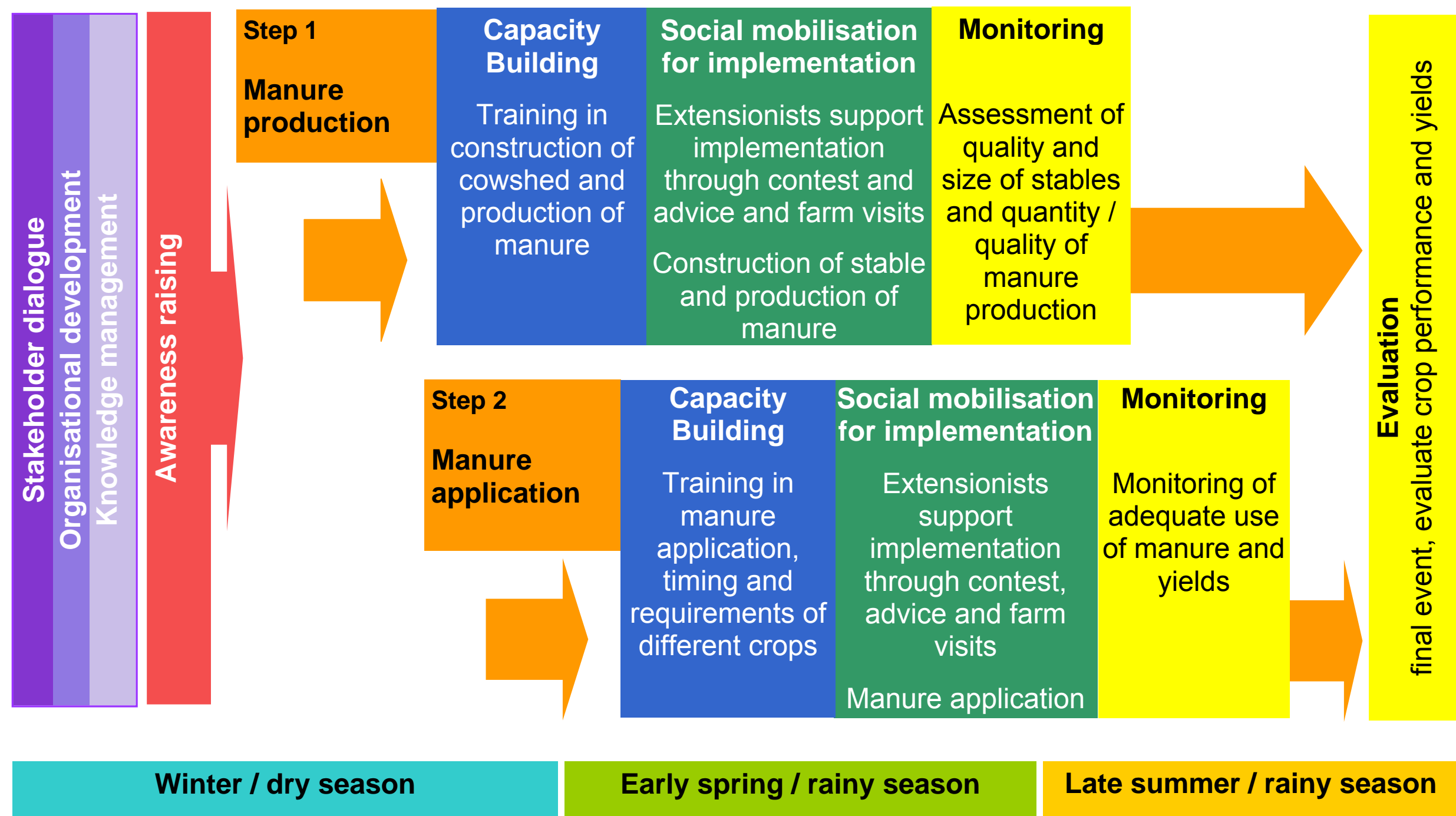
Principles of the LforS approach



- Social and collaborative learning in multi-stakeholder learning groups
- Active and situated learning
- Consideration of community and farm level
- Enabling self-determined acting
- Developing problem-solving approaches at the local level
- Creating extension clients' ownership of extension themes and organisation

Organisation of extension activities (extension cycle)

Example: Improving yields with farmyard manure



ACTIVITY LINE 1

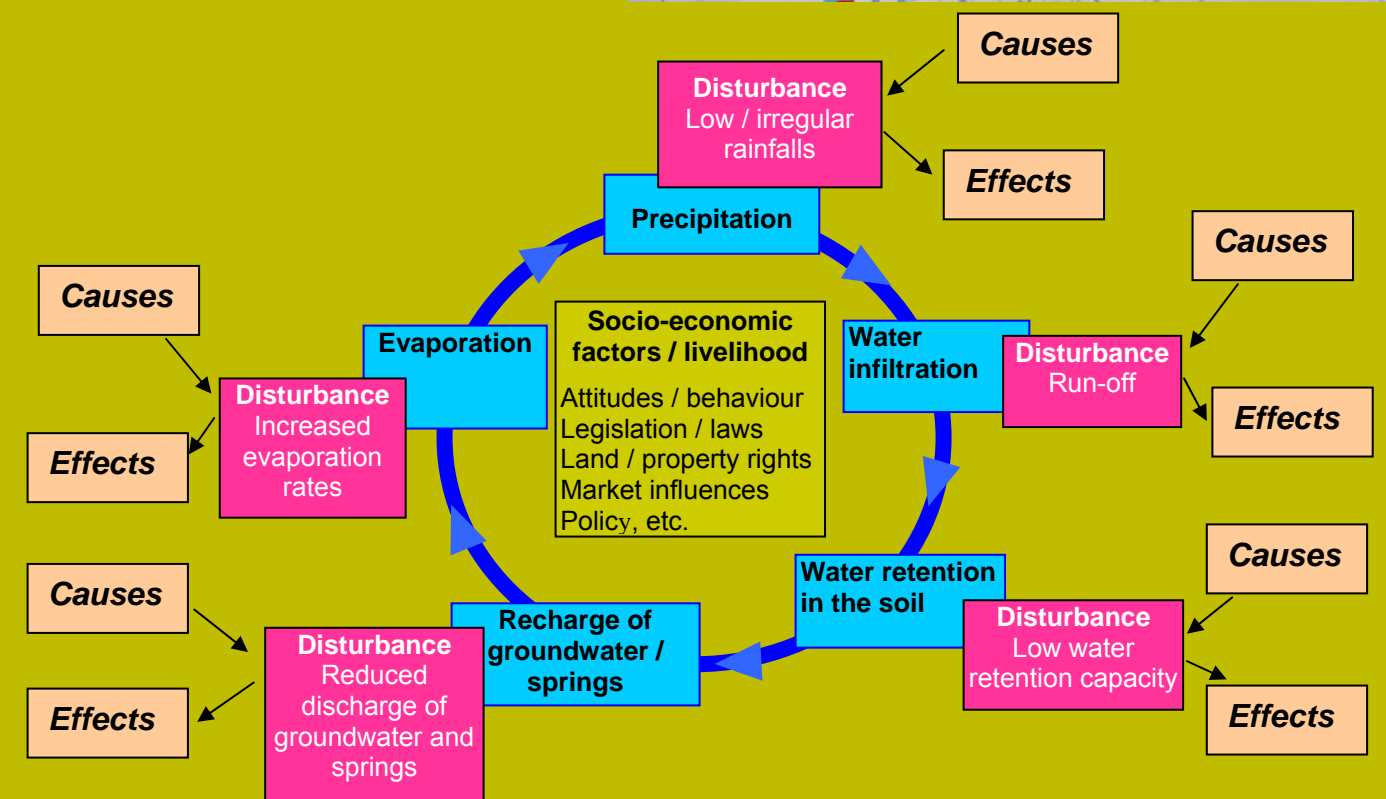
Awareness raising

Goals

- Develop common visions
- Foster common understanding of problems
- Discover interconnections and dynamics
- Develop common problem-solving approaches

Tools and methods

- Simulation and learning games
- Diagnosis of cycles (e.g. water cycle)
- Vision mapping





ACTIVITY LINE 2

Capacity building

Goal

- Acquire concrete skills and knowledge required to implement problem-solving approaches

Tools and methods

- Practical workshops
- Photo series
- Participatory technology development



ACTIVITY LINE 3

Social mobilisation

Goal

- Encourage and motivate communities to implement extension themes

Tools and methods

- Implementation contest: communities implement extension themes, a monitoring commission evaluates the work done, the best achievements are rewarded
- Working with the media



